Defense Information Systems Agency
Department of Defense

# DSN Certification and Accreditation Process Update

Teri C. Netter
Chief, DSN System Design,
Implementation, and Transition Branch
18 May 2006

# Agenda

- Policy Documents
- Approved Product List (APL) Process Overview
- Voice Connection Approval Office (VCAO)
- Interoperability Testing
- Information Assurance Testing
- APL Process Changes and Drivers
- Product Pre-submittal Responsibilities
- New Process

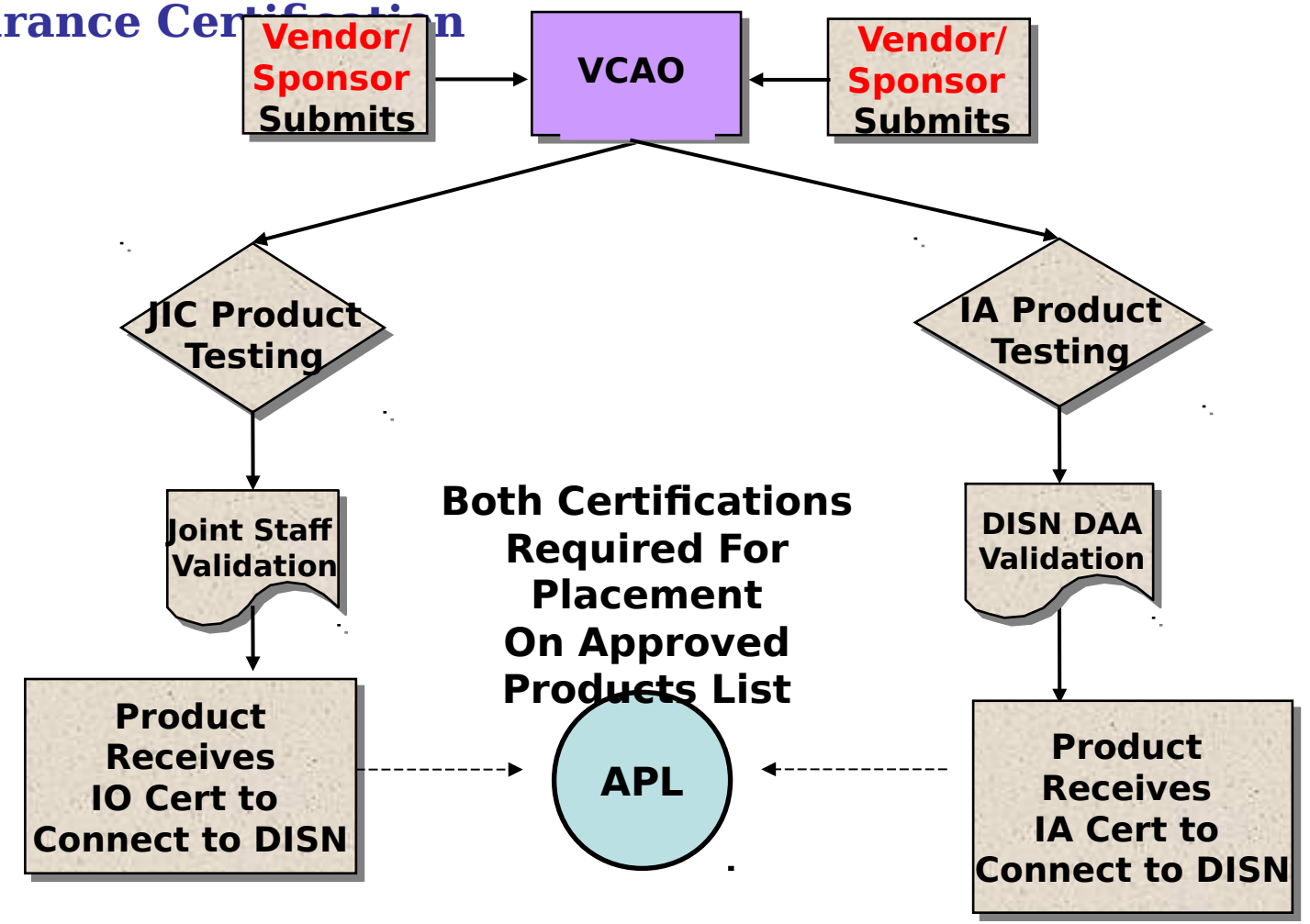
# Guiding Policy Documents

- **CJCSI 6211.02B "DISN CONNECTION POLICY, RESPONSIBILITIES, AND PROCESSES"**
  - Establishes policy, responsibilities and connection approval process requirements for subnetworks of the Defense Information Systems Network (DISN).
- **CJCSI 6215.01B "Policy for DoD Voice Networks"**
  - Directs DISA to manage the DSN/DRSN from end to end.
- **DoDI 8100.3 "DoD Voice Networks"**
  - Directs Joint Interoperability and Information Assurance testing of all components connected, or planned for connection to the DSN, DRSN, or PSTN.
- **DoDD 8500.1 "Information Assurance"**
  - Directs all information Technology to be IA tested and

# Other Guidance Documents

- **Generic Switch Center Requirements (GSCR)**
  - Specifies technical standards for telecommunication switching equipment to be connected to the DSN;  emphasis is on Military Unique Features, e.g., Multilevel Precedence and Preemption (MLPP).
- **DISA Security Technical Implementation Guides (STIG)**
  - Defines technical security policies, requirements, and Implementation details for applying security to the DSN.
- **Telecordia GR-815 Core, Issue 2**
  - Defines security requirements that the DSN shall meet to include User Identification/Authentication, System Access Control, Security Logs(Audits), and Security Administration.
- **NIST Special Publication 800-42 (SP 800-42)**
  - Guideline on Network Security Testing that describes multiple types of security tests used to assess vulnerabilities of telecom systems.

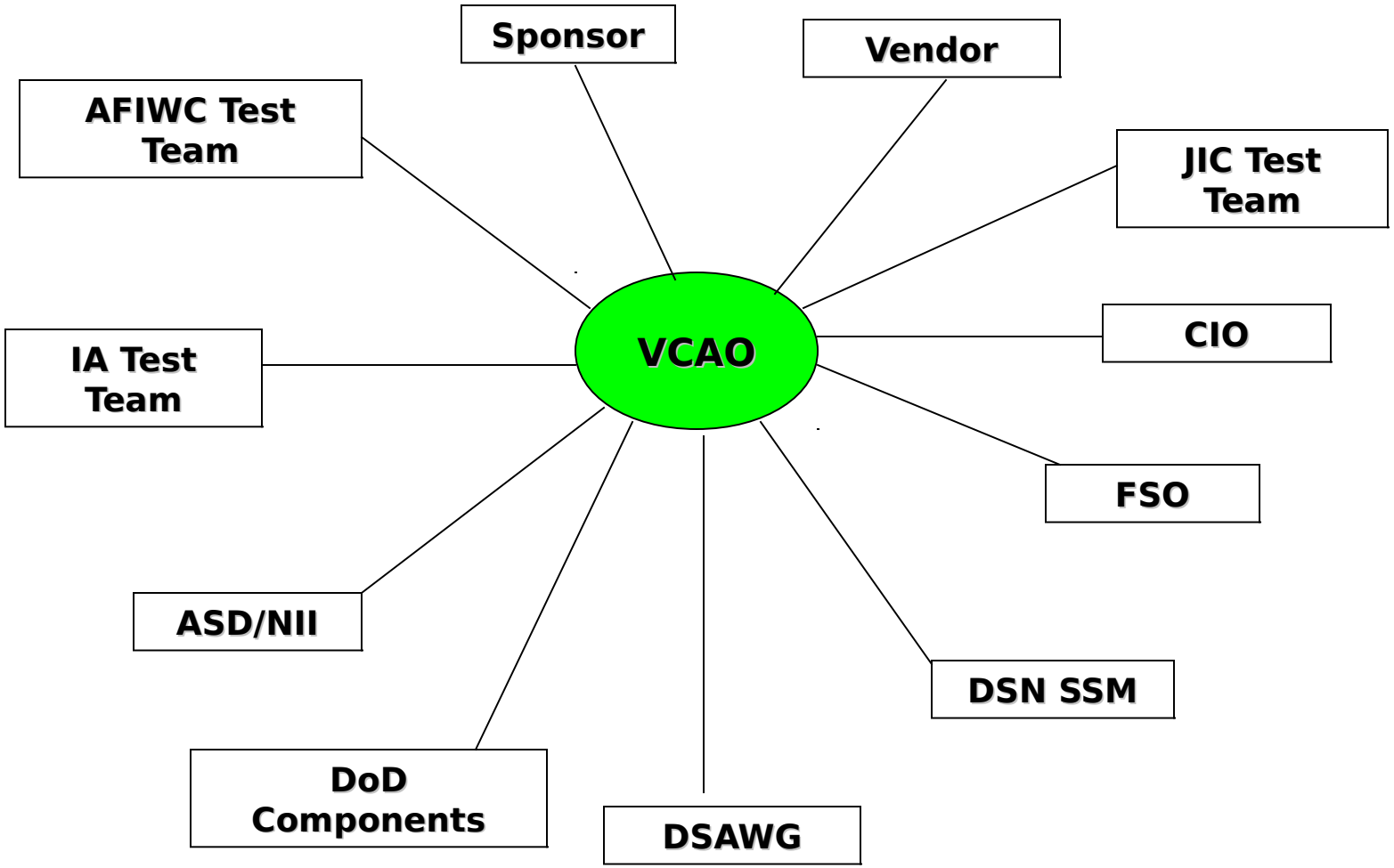
# APL Product Certification Process



# Voice Connection Approval Office

- **VCAO:**
  - **Central point of contact for DSN connection approval and approved products list process and questions**
    - **http://www.disa.mil/gs.dsn/jic/index.html**
  - **Manages IO and IA test team schedule**
  - **Coordinates and tracks product status on testing schedule, test results, and the Approved Products List (APL).**
  - **Provides Sponsors/vendor tracking numbers to track product**
  - **Submits the proper certification documentation for the product to the DISN Security Accreditation Working Group (DSAWG)**
  - **Contacts the sponsor with the decision regarding their submittal.**

# VCAO Coordination Members



# Interoperability Testing

- **Joint Interoperability Test Command (JITC)**
  - **Conducts all interoperability certification testing.**
  - **Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) between JITC and vendor is used to exchange cost of test services for vendor equipment. Benefits both vendor and Government**
  - **Fee for service when CRADA not applicable**
  - **Ensures end-to-end interoperability of voice switching systems by validating all Telecom equipment connected to the DSN meets applicable Generic Switching Center Requirements (GSCR).**
  - **Focus of testing is to ensure Military Unique Features (MUF) such as Multilevel Precedence and Preemption are met**
  - **Test outcome is JITC certification letter that is validated by Joint Staff**

# Information Assurance Testing

- **Supported by test teams at:**
  - **JITC, Ft Huachuca, AZ**
  - **Air Force Information Warfare Center (AFIWC), San Antonio, TX**
- **Composed of three (3) phases:**
  - **Phase I: Security Technical Implementation Guide (STIG) compliance, Functional Security Tests with emphasis on GR-815**
  - **Phase II: IP Penetration Testing**
  - **Phase III: TDM Testing**
- **Validates product compliance with Federal and DoD IA requirements**
- **IA test results**
  - **Vendor mitigations evaluated by Field Security Office (DISA)**

# Process changes

- **Reduce timeline to APL**
- **Increase process flexibility**
- **Create accountability through decision points**
- **Create synergy between IA and IO**
- **Significantly improve communication between DISA test teams and Sponsor/Vendor**

- **Goal: 6 months from receipt of Vendor documentation (clock start) to placement on Approved Products List**

- **Effective:**
  - **17 July 2006 for all products on existing schedule (including retests)**
  - **Immediately for all new products**

# Change Drivers - DISA

- **Too rigid…too long**
  - **DISN DAA approval process challenging (Resources)**
  - **Traveling team reduced flexibility**
  - **Vendor engineers not allowed to participate in all test phases**
- **Insufficient IA teams to keep up with IO**
  - **Caused IO to test before IA, so timeline extended**
- **Started clock when product submitted on web page**
- **Not enough interaction between DISA teams and Vendor/Sponsor**
- **Too many delays in delivering reports/feedback**
- **“Requirements creep” from new STIGs**
- **IA regression testing during test window not available**
- **Perception of “hidden triggers”**
  - **Event awaiting vendor action**

# Change Drivers - Sponsor/Vendo

- Sponsor/Vendor not available to schedule In and Out Briefs
- Sponsors not knowledgeable about product
- Multiple delays in delivering required documentation
- Vendors arriving for IA testing unprepared
  - 90 % ignore STIG and/or GR 815 self-assessment requirement
  - Guaranteed retests, which lengthened process timeline
- No penalty to Vendors/Sponsor if they're not ready--other than delay
- Sponsor not participating in Out brief
- Scheduling regression tests before initial test
  - They know they're not going to make it through
  - Consider first IA test "Beta" or "Proving Ground"

# Product Pre-submittal Responsibility

Responsibility

The Applicant is required to adhere to the following requirements listed below. Neither JIC nor IA testing will be conducted on the submitted solution without ongoing compliance with the following requirements. Please check the boxes indicating your acceptance to comply.

1.Vendor/Sponsor responsible for coordinating payment of lab testing fees/CRADA agreements with the JITC Action Officer that will contact applicant upon acceptance of completed test submittal.

2.Provide Technical Documentation for the product to include diagrams (as intended for test), security white papers, architecture documents, vendor guidelines and or a list of all system components, the underlying operating system, all applicable solution version numbers.

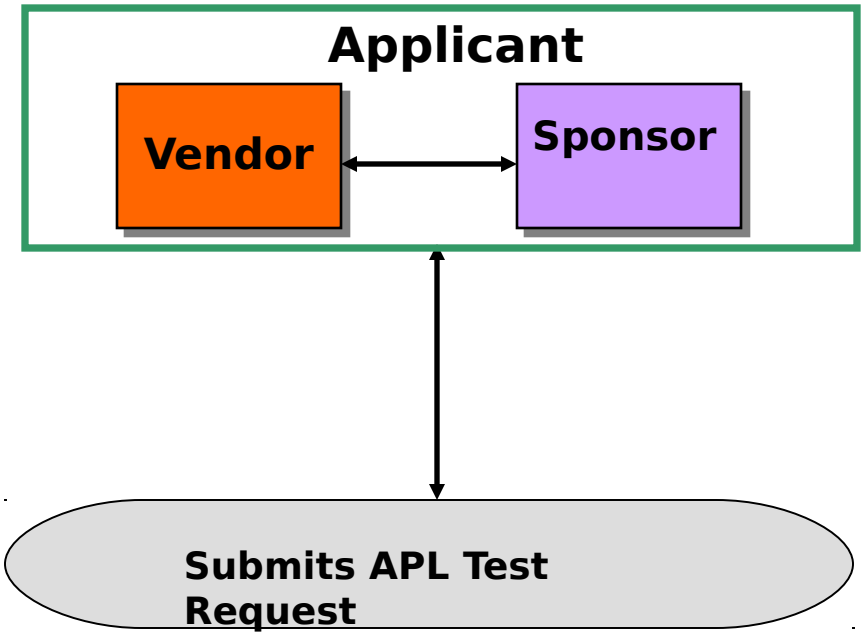
3. Apply applicable Security Technical Implementation Guide (STIGS) for the submitted product prior to the scheduled IA and IO testing.

4. Applicant (ie: either vendor or sponsor) ensures engineering support be provided at JITC for the testing dates officially assigned for this solution and posted to the JITC Testing Schedule located at the following link: JITC Testing Schedule

5. Sponsor must/will attend all In briefs and Out briefs for his/her solution (adherence is not optional) otherwise the briefing will be canceled.

Compliance to all applicable STIGs will be verified during lab setup.

# Step 1: Submittal




http://www.disa.mil/gs/dsn/jic/index.html

STEP 1: Applicant Agrees to the Following prior to submittal:

1) Payment or CRADA.

2) Provide Technical Documentation prior to receiving tracking number from VCAO.

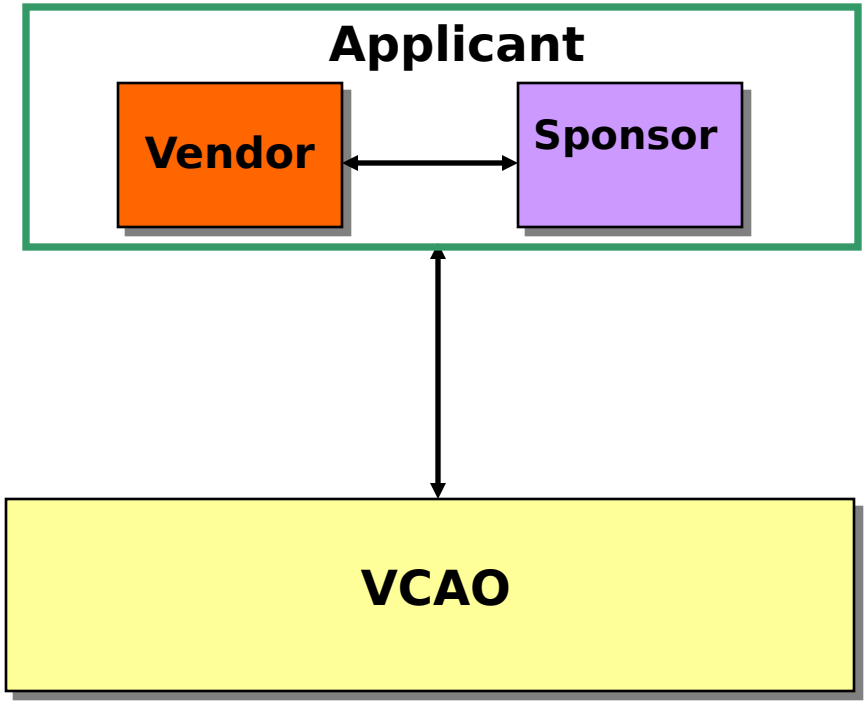
3) Apply all applicable STIG's and GR-815 requirements. Submit self-assessment results and mitigations to VCAO no later than 4 weeks prior to scheduled test date.

4) Engineering support present during all phases.

STEP 2: Complete submittal form.

STEP 3: Download Test Requirements Bundle

# Step 2: Vendor Pre-Scheduling Actions




1) Complete STIG Questionaire.

2) Provide STIG Questionaire and Product Technical Documentation IAW requirements outlined in Rules Of Engagement (Test Requirements Bundle) to VCAO.

# Step 3: VCAO Verification

**VCAO:**

1) Upon receipt of STIG Checklist and Documentation DISA will verify technical sufficiency (clock starts).

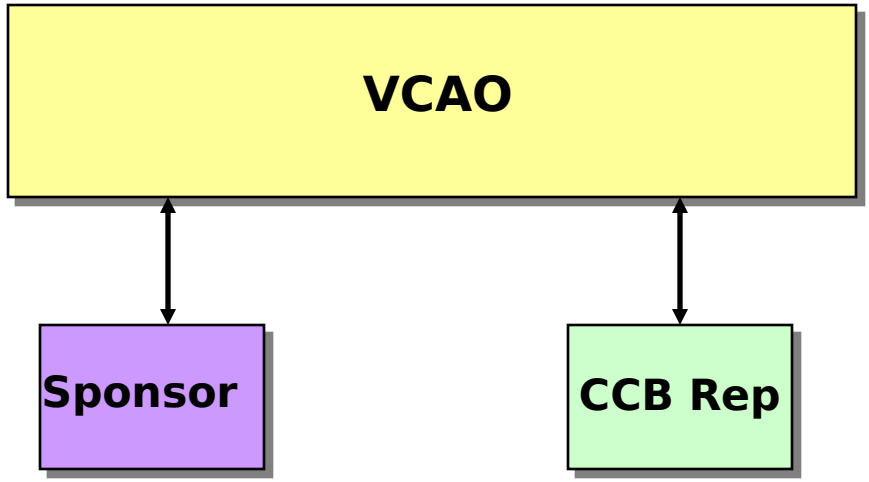
2) Send Sponsor Verification Email to solution sponsor requiring verification of the following:

   a) Sponsorship of submitted solution

   b) Agreement to review and confirm solution deployment configuration provided by vendor

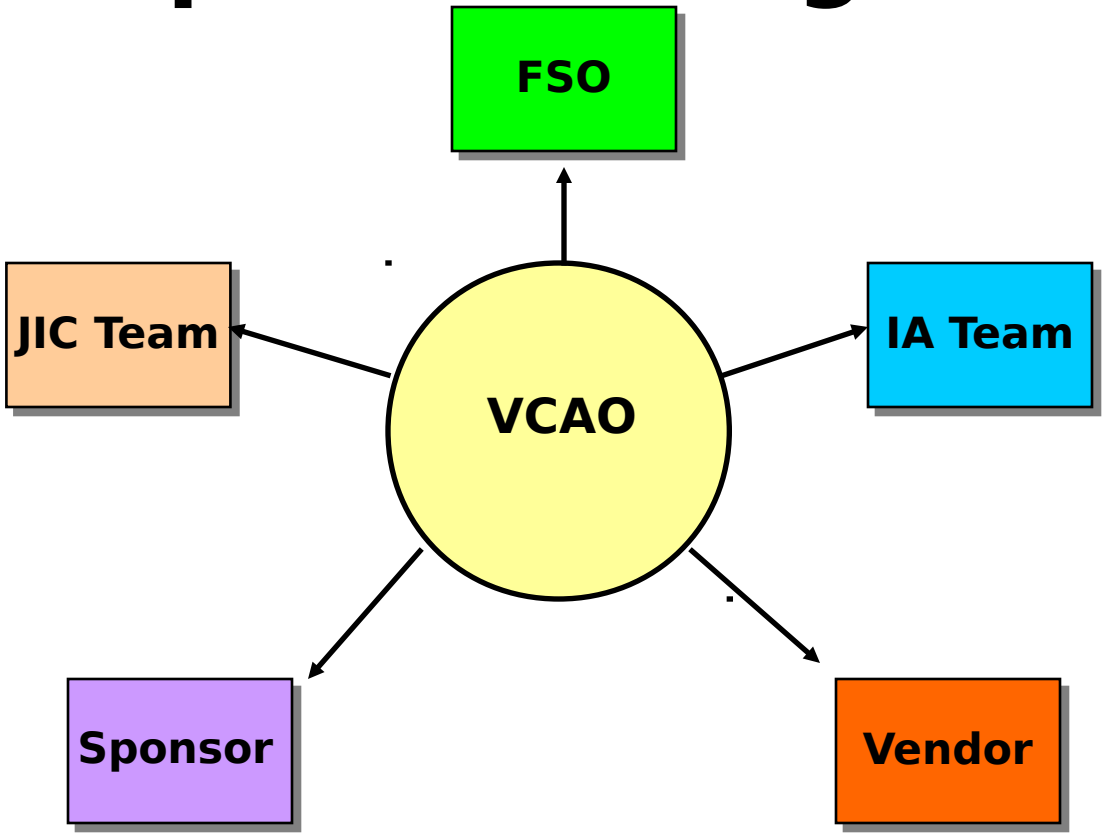
   c) Agreement to attend scheduled Outbrief for solution

3) Send CCB Notification Email



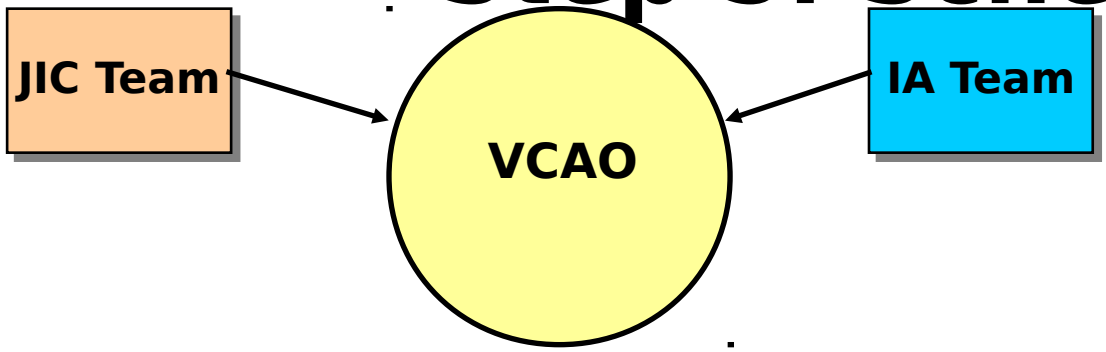

4) Sponsor verifies all items from previous paragraph in email to VCAO.

# Step 4: Tracking Number




VCAO: Assigns and distributes Tracking Number after STIG Questionaire and Product Documentation received and Verification successfully completed.

# Step 5: Scheduling




VCAO/Test Teams:

1) TSSI Scheduling occurs every other Wednesday.
2) Schedule new products for IA/IO testing.
3) Make decisions on possible slips, postponements, and cancellations.
    a) If cancellation occurs, identify potential replacement vendors (Self-Assessment Status)
4) New schedule posted every other Friday (http://jitc.fhu.disa.mil/tssi/schedule.html)

# Step 6: AO Initial Contact

STEP 1: Conducts initial phone conversation with vendor and discusses the following: (Note: Replaces Inbrief):

a) Submitted Product Documentation and Diagrams.

b) CRADA/Fee arrangements

c) FSO STIG Questionaire and applicable STIG's

d) Scheduled Test Dates.

e) Tentatively schedule Outbrief date

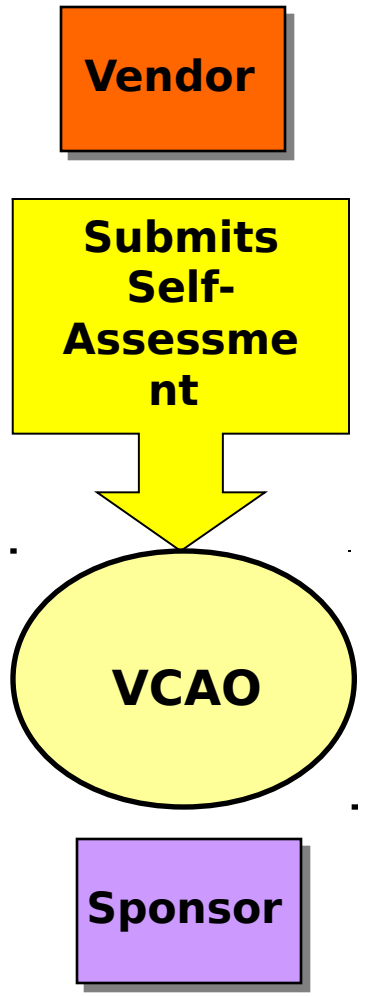
f) Misc. Issues

STEP 2: Generates minutes of conversation.

STEP3: Minutes sent to sponsor for validation

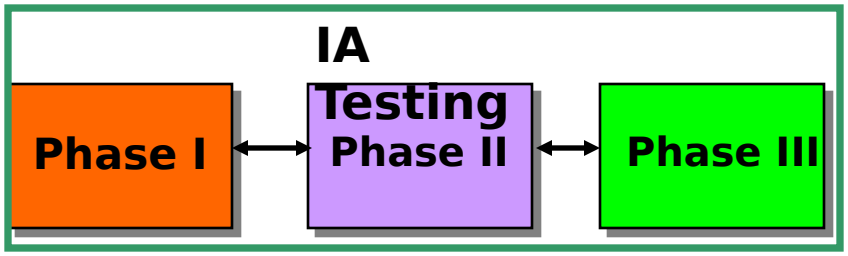
STEP 4: AO/FSO/FSO Support supply continuous support to vendor/sponsor.

# Step 7: Self-Assessment Evaluation



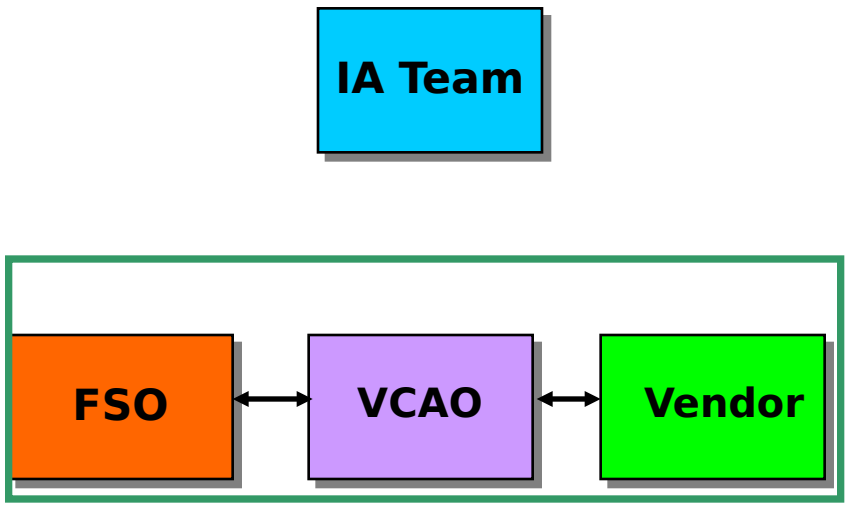

1) VCAO sends warning notification to vendor/sponsor 1 week prior to Self-assessment due date.
2) Self-Assessment reports and mitigations due to VCAO NLT 4 weeks prior to scheduled test dates.
3) VCAO evaluates results in cooperation with FSO and IA Test Team
   - Requests recommendation from sponsor to test or not to test.
4) If approved by sponsor, vendor continues with scheduled testing
5) If not approved, scheduled test

# Step 8: IA Testing



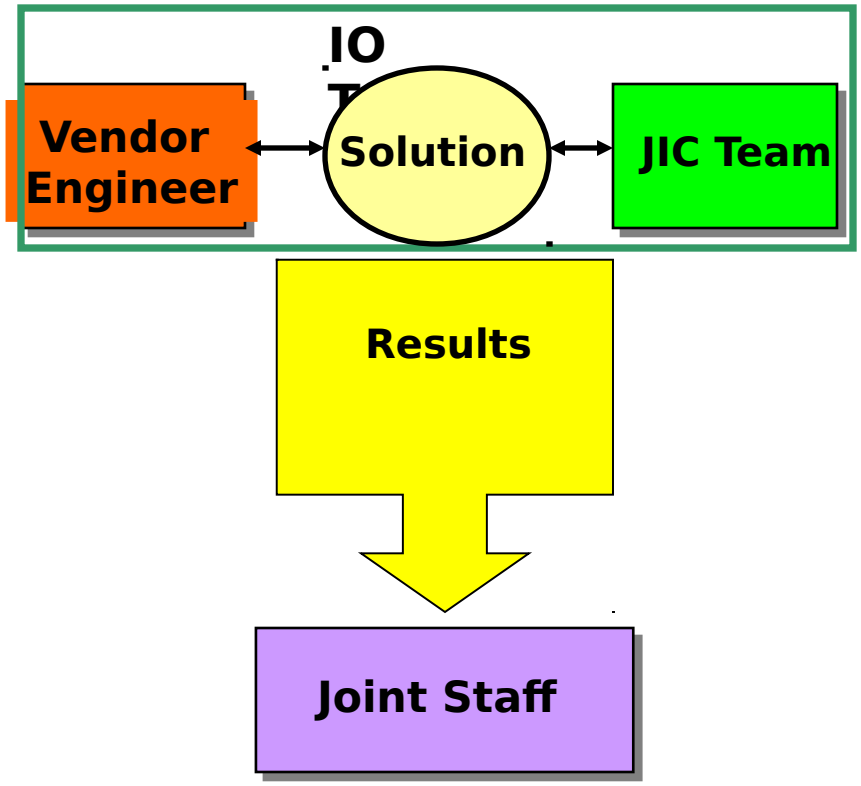

1) Phase I: STIG/GR-815 Testing
2) Phase II: IP Penetration Testing
3) Phase III: TDM Testing
4) Changes to IA testing process:
    a) Vendors will be required to provide on-site engineering support during all phases of testing.
    b) Vendors will be allowed to fix findings/TDR's within test window as long as doesn't interfere with completion of testing.

# Step 9: IA Testing Completed




1) IA Team Evaluates findings at end of each phase of testing with vendor
2) At end of testing, determination is made on whether or not to proceed to IO (VCAO in coordination with FSO and IA Test Team)
3) Final IA Findings letter is generated by IA Test Team NLT 1 week after completion of test.
4) Vendor completes mitigations and submits to VCAO NLT 2 weeks after receipt of Final IA Findings Letter.
5) All parties attend previously

# Step 10: IO Testing




1) Concurrent with IA Steps 11 - 12
2) Changes to IO testing process: <u>None</u>
   a) Vendors will be required to provide on-site engineering support during all phases of testing.
   b) Vendors will be allowed to fix findings/TDR's within test window as long as doesn't interfere with completion of testing.
3) Results of testing presented to Joint Staff for final approval.

# Step 11: Outbrief (Parallel track)

1. Previously scheduled outbrief occurs approximately 3 weeks after completion of IA testing.

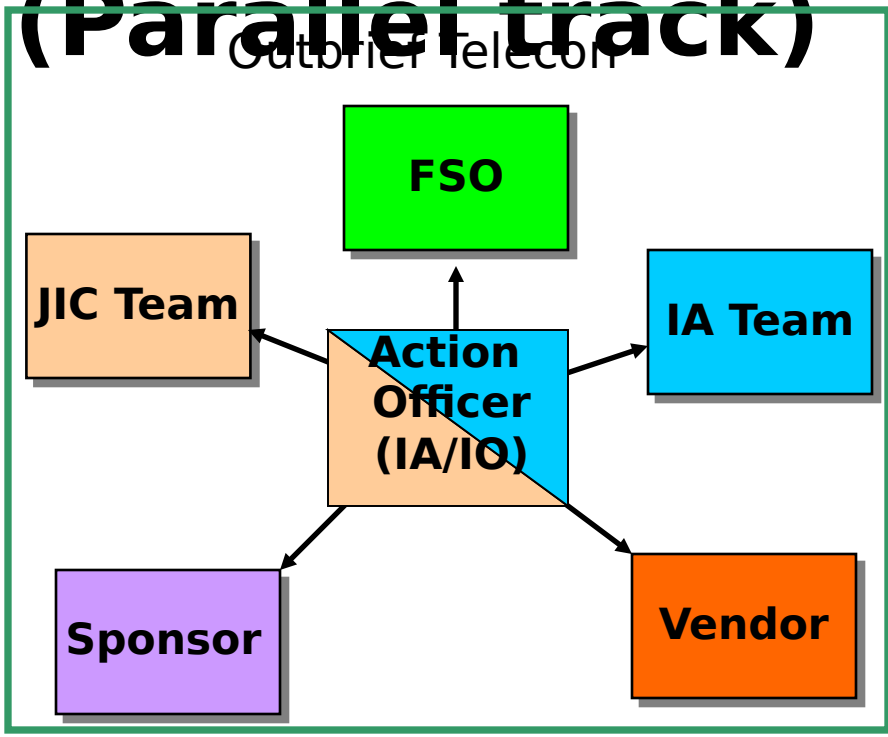
2. Decision is made on the following:

   **Option 1:** Rework mitigations: VCAO will make official CA recommendation request upon receipt of reworked mitigations.

   **Option 2:** Move Forward: IA Team Develops Security Assessment Report (IA Findings Letter w/vendor supplied mitigations) within 3 days.

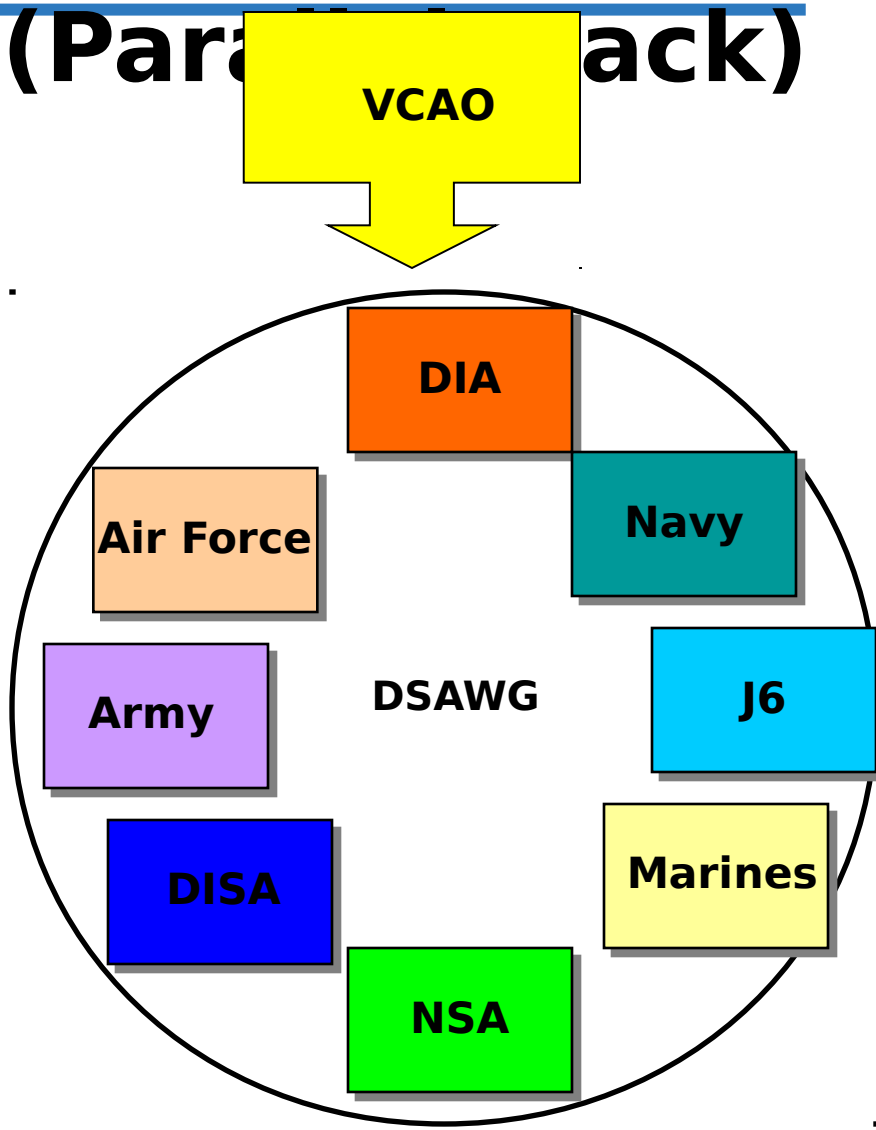
   a) VCAO makes official CA Recommendation Request.

   b) VCAO creates DSAWG Read Ahead Briefing and requests slot on agenda at next scheduled upcoming DSAWG.

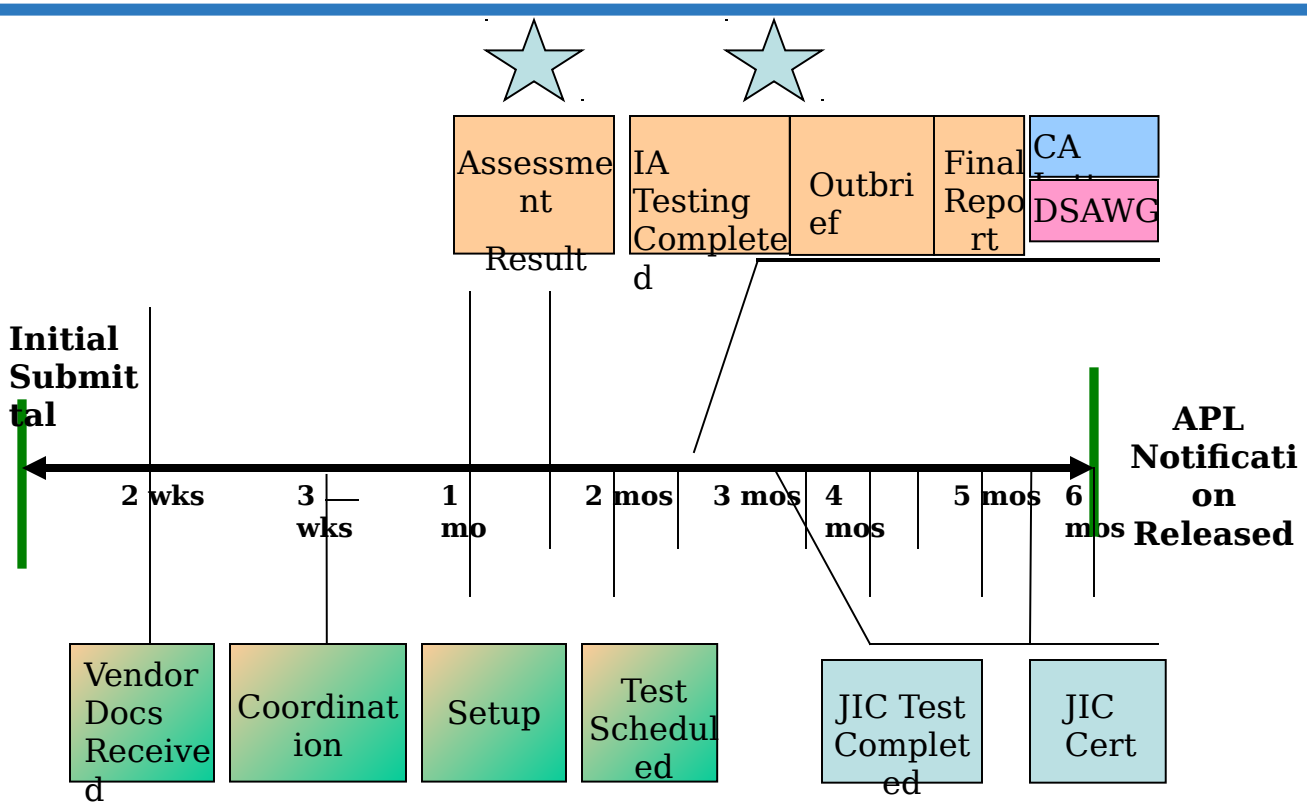


# Step 12: DSAWG (Para[illegible]ack)

1. DSAWG Board meets on a monthly basis
2. If successful, product will be approved for connection to DISN
3. If unsuccessful, product will be worked on a case-by-case basis



# APL Process Timeline



# VCAO Points of Contact

**Michael Washington**
**DSN: (312) 381-0330**
**CML: (703) 882-0300**

**Jewuan Davis**
**DSN: (312) 381-0462**
**CML: (703) 882-0462**

**Kevin McKinney**
**DSN (312) 879-3234**
**CML: (520) 538-3234**

**VCAO Group Email Alias: NS534-web@disa.mil**

Questions?

**www.disa.mil**